

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) A process for the preparation of an epoxidation catalyst, which process comprises impregnating a silicon containing carrier with a gas stream consisting of titanium halide.
2. (Original) The process of claim 1, wherein the silicon containing carrier is a silica gel.
3. (Original) The process of claim 2, wherein the gas stream consists of titanium tetrachloride.
4. (Original) The process of claim 2, wherein the silicon containing carrier comprises at most 1200 ppm of sodium, based on amount of carrier.
5. (Original) The process of claim 2, further comprising drying the silicon containing carrier before impregnation.
6. (Original) The process of claim 5, further comprising calcining and subsequently hydrolyzing the impregnated carrier to produce a calcined and hydrolyzed carrier.
7. (Original) The process of claim 6, further comprising contacting the hydrolyzed carrier with a silylating agent.
8. (Original) The process of claim 1, wherein the gas stream consists of titanium tetrachloride.
9. (Original) The process of claim 1, wherein the silicon containing carrier comprises at most 1200 ppm of sodium, based on amount of carrier.
10. (Original) The process of claim 1, wherein the silicon containing carrier comprises particles with a weight average particle size of at most 2 mm.
11. (Original) The process of claim 1, further comprising drying the silicon containing carrier before impregnation.
12. (Original) The process of claim 1, further comprising calcining and subsequently hydrolyzing the impregnated carrier to produce a calcined and hydrolyzed carrier.
13. (Original) The process of claim 12, further comprising contacting the hydrolyzed carrier with a silylating agent.

14. (Original) The process of claim 13 wherein the silylating agent comprises hexamethyldisilazane.

Claims 15-20 (cancelled)

21. (New) The process of Claim 5 wherein said silicon containing carrier is dried by heating said carrier at a temperature of from 200° C to 700° C for a time ranging from 1 hour to 8 hours.

22. (New) The process of Claim 21 wherein said temperature is from 200° C to 300° C

23. (New) The process of Claim 1 wherein said silicon containing carrier is a silica carrier.

24. (New) The process of Claim 23 wherein said silica carrier is a silica gel that substantially consists of silicon dioxide and contains, at most: (a) 1200 ppm of sodium, (b) 500 ppm of aluminum, (c) 500 ppm of calcium, (d) 200 ppm of potassium, (e) 100 ppm of magnesium, and (f) 100 ppm of iron, based on amount of carrier.

25. (New) The process of Claim 1 wherein said silicon containing carrier has a weight average particle size of from 0.2 mm to 1.8 mm.

26. (New) The process of Claim 25 wherein said particle size is from 0.4 mm to 1.6 mm.

27. (New) The process of Claim 26 wherein said particle size is from 0.6 mm to 1.4 mm.

28. (New) The process of Claim 1 wherein said silicon containing carrier is a silica gel that has a surface area of at most 1000 m²/gram.

29. (New) The process of Claim 1 wherein said silicon containing carrier has a surface area of at most 800 m²/gram.

30. (New) The process of Claim 1 wherein said silicon containing carrier has a surface area of at most 500 m²/gram.

31. (New) The process of Claim 1 wherein said silicon containing carrier comprises zeolites.

32. (New) The process of Claim 1 wherein said silicon containing carrier has a low water content.

33. (New) The process of Claim 6 wherein said silicon containing carrier is a silica having a low water content and a weight average particle size of at most 2 mm.

34. (New) The process of Claim 33 wherein said silicon containing carrier is a silica gel.

35. (New) The process of Claim 34 wherein said silica gel has a weight average particle size of from 0.4 mm to 1.6 mm and a surface area of at most 800 m²/gram.

36. (New) The process of Claim 35 wherein said silica gel has a weight average particle size of from 0.6 mm to 1.4 mm and a surface area of at most 500 m²/gram.
37. (New) The process of Claim 35 wherein said silica gel has a weight average particle size of from 0.2 mm to 1.8 mm and a surface area of at most 1000 m²/gram.
38. (New) The process of Claim 34 wherein said titanium halide is titanium tetrahalide.
39. (New) The process of Claim 34 further comprising contacting the hydrolyzed carrier with a silylating agent.
40. (New) The process of Claim 39 wherein the silylating agent comprises hexamethyldisilazane.
41. (New) A process for the preparation of an epoxidation catalyst, which process comprises impregnating a silicon containing carrier with a gas stream comprising at least 80 %wt of titanium halide.
42. (New) The process of Claim 41, wherein the gas stream comprises at least 90 %wt of titanium halide.
43. (New) The process of Claim 42, wherein the gas stream comprises at least 95 %wt of titanium halide.
44. (New) The process of Claim 41, wherein said silicon containing carrier is a silica carrier.
45. (New) The process of Claim 44, wherein said silicon containing carrier is a silica gel and said titanium halide is titanium tetrachloride.
46. (New) The process of Claim 45, further comprising calcining and subsequently hydrolyzing the impregnated carrier to produce a calcined and hydrolyzed carrier.
47. (New) The process of Claim 46, further comprising contacting the hydrolyzed carrier with a silating agent.
48. (New) The process of Claim 47, wherein the silating agent comprises hexamethyldisilazane.